

REMARKS

Claims 16-23 are pending in this application and stand rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 16-18 and 20-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Balderama et al. (US 5,806,071).

In the rejection, the Examiner contends Balderama discloses each and every feature recited in claims 16-18 and 20-22. Specifically, the Examiner alleges Balderama's menu branch cells 262b and 262a, as depicted in FIG. 13, correspond to the recited first key group and second key group, respectively.. Further, the Examiner relies on display screen 280 (including overflow branch cell 282f and cell 282a), as corresponding to the recited third key group. However, Applicants respectfully submit that these portions fail to meet all the features of claim 16 as amended.

Claim 16 recites, *inter alia*,

a touch panel that simultaneously displays a first key group and a second key group, the second key group including a product key and a first switching key, the first switching key switching a display to replace the second key group with a third key group on one display;
and

a display switching unit that, in response to a pressed the first switching key, replaces the second key group with the third key group

on the display of the touch panel so that the first key group and the third key group are simultaneously displayed.

Balderama fails to disclose, at least, “a touch panel that simultaneously displays a first key group and a second key group” and “a display switching unit that, in response to a pressed the first switching key, replaces the second key group with the third key group on the display of the touch panel so that the first key group and the third key group are simultaneously displayed,” as recited in claim 16.

Specifically, even if menu branch cells 262b and 262a could be construed as corresponding to the recited first key group and second key group, when menu branch cell 262a is pressed, display 280 is displayed. However, display 280 is not displayed simultaneously with menu branch cell 262b. Rather, the display is changed from displaying display 260 to display 280. As noted in the Brief Description of the Drawings, FIG. 13 is a schematic representing three displays. (4:4-6). There is absolutely no support in Balderama these these displays would ever be simultaneously displayed.

Therefore, Balderama fails to disclose “a display switching unit that, in response to a pressed the first switching key, replaces the second key group with the third key group on the display of the touch panel so that the first key group and the third key group are simultaneously displayed,” as recited in claim 16.

Thus, Applicants submit claim 16 is allowable for at least this reason. Additionally, because claim 20 recites similar features, Applicants submit claim 20 is allowable by virtue of their dependency and by virtue of the features recited therein.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 19 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Balderama in view of Moderi (US 5,510,979).

In response, Applicants submit that because Moderi, either taken alone or in combination with Balderama, fails to compensate for the above noted deficiencies of Balderama as applied to claims 16 and 20, claims 19 and 23 are allowable, at least by virtue of their dependency.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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